employees to the names of their eligible dependents after their retirement, may be made or not.

*131. [*Transferred to the 30th November, 1988*].

Remunerative price for lac in Bihar

*132. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme to protect the growers of traditional cash crops aaginst adverse market conditions and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government are aware that "Lac" is the main cash crop in the entire Chota Nagpur plateau in Bihar and that its growers have been put to severe hardships due to sharp decline in the price of lac in the domestic market whereas a handful of traders have been thriving on its export for the last several years;

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to ensure remunerative price for their produce; and

(d) what has been the role of the Indian Lac Research Institute, Ranchi in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) In case of traditional cash crops like cotton, jute, sugarcane, oilseeds etc. which have wide area coverage, the Government has been announcing the minimum support prices to protect the interest of farmers.

(b) and (c) Bihar (Chotanagpur area) is the major producer of Lac. The prices during the months of June to September, 1988 were lower as compared to the corresponding period last year. However, these prices are comparable to the normal production year of 1986.

Government has set up the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited to organise the marketing of tribal produce to ensure that the tribals realise a fair price for their produce.

(d) The Indian Lac Research Institute mainly undertakes research to evolve new technology to increase the productivity and identify the new uses for lac to increase its utilization.

Demonstrations to popularise modern farming in Tamil Nadu

*133. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of demonstrations, camps and workshops organised in Tamil Nadu under the drive to popularise modern farming in the state during the current year;

(b) whether any follow-up action has been institute to assess the results of such demonstrations; and

(c) whether Government are considering any other measures to educate the the Tamil Nadu farmers in relation to the scanty rainfall, hot and humid climate during major part of the year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

New Labour Welfare Schemes

*134. DR. MOHD HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the distinctive features of the new Labour Welfare Schemes prepared by Government;

(b) what would be the total amount of money proposed to be allocated for these schemes; and

(c) by when these schemes are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) The following new Labour Welfare Schemes have been launched by the Ministry of Labour:

(i) Projects for Welfare of working children with a view to provide them employment generating programmes, following new Labour Welfare Schemes have formal and non-formal education, voca-